

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

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AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 INR-10 LAB-04
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O 181804Z JUL 78
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2245
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY KINGSTON
AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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PARIS FOR OECD FOR HORMATS

E.O. 11652:N/A
TAGS: EGEN, UN, ECOSOC
SUBJECT: 1978 SUMMER ECOSOC: JAMAICAN AND ALGERIAN
SPEAK ON COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE IN GENERAL DEBATE

REF: GENEVA 10986
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1. MOST G-77 DELEGATIONS SPOKE TO ROLE OF COMMITTEE OF
THE WHOLE (COW) IN THEIR ECOSOC GENERAL DEBATE SPEECHES,
GENERALLY SOUNDING THE THEME THAT IT WAS AN ACTION-ORIENTED
BODY. PHILIPPINES WERE FIRST TO CRITICIZE TERM "OVERVIEW
MECHANISM" ON GROUNDS TERM SEEMED TO EXCLUDE ACTION;
YUGOSLAVS ALSO MADE STRONG REMARKS ON ACTION THEME.
PRINCIPAL SPEECHES, HOWEVER, AS USDEL SEES
IT, WERE THOSE OF AMBASSADOR (IN GENEVA) HILL OF JAMAICA
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AND OF CHAIRMAN JAZAIRY, SPEAKING AS HEAD OF ALGERIAN
DELEGATION

2. HILL'S SPEECH TO WHICH N.Y. AMBASSADOR MILLS CONTRI-
BUTED HEAVILY, WAS NOTIBLE FOR ITS REJECTION OF (SOVIET)
ARGUMENTS OF NON-RESPONSIBILITY AND ITS CALL ON ALL
NATIONS TO CONTRIBUTE TO NIEO (PERHAPS A REFLECTION OF

MANLEY VIEW (STATE 17534). IT WAS I THE MILDER OF THE TWO. HE SUMMARIZED FOUR ASPECTS OF MANDATE OF COW, AS CONTAINED IN RES 32/174 AND RULED OUT CONCENTRATION ON ANY ONE ("FOR INSTANCE IT WOULD BE A MISUSE OF ITS TIME SHOULD THE COMMITTEE MERELY ENGAGE IN PERIODIC EXCHANGES O VIEWS, NO MATTER HOW FRANK, OR THE PROBLEMS AND PRIORITIES OF THE WORLD ECONOMY.") HE EXPRESSED THE "ACTION" THEME IN WORDS NOT TOO DIFFERENT FROM OUR NEW APPROACH. ("WE WOULD HOPE AND EXPECT THAT THIS COMMITTEE WOULD BE A FORUM WITHIN WHICH REPRESENTATIVES OF GOVERNMENTS WOULD SEEK TO ARRIVE AT CONCRETE AND ACTION-ORIENTED SOLUTIONS.") HE DID, HOWEVER, INSERT THE NOTION OF ACTION "WITHIN AGREED TIMETABLES". HE DID NOT MENTION THE COMMITTEE'S "DECISION-MAKING" RESPONSIBILITY.

3. IN AN APPROACH PARALLELING AMBASSADOR YOUNG'S "FOUR REALITIES", HILL CONTINUED WITH "FIVE OBSERVATIONS" WHICH FORM A COGENT RATIONALE FOR COW:

- 1) REGARDLESS OF THE NORMAL FORUM ("VIENNA, PARIS, ROME OR GENEVA") ALL INSTRUCTIONS COME FROM CAPITALS.
- 2) "THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE IS NOT A SUBSTITUTE FOR THE WORK IN THE APPROPRIATE AGENCIES OF THE U.N. SYSTEM".
- 3)"THERE IS THE CLOSET LINK" BETWEEN BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS AND THE WORK IN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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- 4) THE COMMITTEE "MUST TAKE AS GIVEN AREAS OF DISCUSSION ALREADY IDENTIFIED..."
 - 5) THE COMMITTEE'S PRIORITIES MUST BE BALANCED AND "CANNOT BE ARBITRARILY JUGGLED SIMPLY BECAUSE ONE OR MORE GROUPS OF COUNTRIES FIND IT INCONVENIENT TO ADOPT A PARTICULAR ISSUE".
- HILL CONCLUDED WITH A "SINCERE WISH THAT COW WILL DISCHARGE THE MANDATE SO CLEARLY GIVEN", DEVOID OF ANY THREATS OR REFLECTION ON POSSIBLE FAILURE.

4. JAZAIRY'S REMARKS WERE CONSIDERABLY MORE POINTED, ALTHOUGH THE OVERALL CONTEXT WAS MODERATE. ON TRANSFER OF RESOURCES, HE SEEMED TO ADOPT THE KRESKY APPROACH. ("WE MUST EXPLORE FURTHER THE POSSIBILITIES OF NON-INFLATING USE OF UNEMPLOYED CAPACITIES IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES IN THE FRAMEWORK OF AN INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM OF STIMULATION AND SUPPORT OF DEMAND IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES"). THIS HAS ACCOMPANIZED BY OBSERVATIONS THAT LDC DEMAND HAD PLAYED COUNTERCYSHAL ROLE, BUT AT EXPENSE OF DEBT, AND THAT LDC'S COULD NOT CONTINUE AS "LOCOMOTIVES" ONLY WITH OWN RESOURCS. HE CONCLUDED WITH PITCH FOR A "CONCEPTUAL BREAKTHROUGH" IN THIS AREA, WHICH WOULD

"PERMIT THE VAST POTENTIAL OF THE THIRD WORLD TO BE
MOBILIZED TO BENEFIT THE HEALTH OF THE WORLD ECONOMY."

5. COMMENT: LATER IN SPEECH, JAZAIRY REFERRED TO "STRIKING
RECOGNITION" (RECONNAISSANCE ECLATANTE) IN REMARKS OF A
"MAJOR INDUSTRIAL COUNTRY" (I.E. AMBASSADOR YOUNG'S
SPEECH) THAT GREATEST POTENTIAL FOR
GROWTH IS IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. IT SEEMS CLEAR TO
U.S. DEL THAT JAZAIRY BELIEVES A "RESULT" ON TRANSFER
OF RESOURCES ITEM SHOULD NOT BE DIFFERENT FOR INDUSTRIAL
COUNTRIES TO ARRIVE AT. HIS RATHER LENGTHY REMARKS
ON CONDITIONALITY IN IMF LENDING, WITHOUT GOING INTO MORE
DIFFICULT MONETARY PROBLEMS, MAY ALSO CONSTITUTE A SIGNAL.

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PARIS FOR OECD FOR HORMATS

6. THE DIFFICULTY IN JAZAIRY'S REMARKS ON COW STEMS LARGE-
LY FROM THE CONTEXT IN WHICH HE PUT THEM - THAT OF "DE-
MOCRATIZATION" OF THE UN DECISION-MAKING PROCESS. HE RE-
LATES THIS THRUST FIRST TO RESTRUCTURING, AND THEN TO THE
UNIDO CONSTITUTION NEGOTIATIONS. THERE FOLLOWS THE STRESS
ON "THE CAPACITY OF THE COMMITTEE TO TAKE DECISIONS", AS
OPPOSED TO SUMMARIES OF THE CHAIRMAN. THE KEY ARGUMENT IS
THAT SINCE COW WAS "FORUM FOR NORTH-SOUTH DIALOGUE AND
HENCE IN CENTRAL POSITION IN UN SYSTEM, "CONCLUSIONS

REACHED THERE SHOULD NOT HAVE A LEGAL STATUS INFERIOR TO THAT OF OTHER INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANS OF THE UN SYSTEM". OTHERWISE, HE ADDED, THE POSSIBILITIES FOR DIALOGUE, AND THE AUTHORITY OF THE UN "COULD BE SERIOUSLY IMPEDED" (GRAVEMENT HYPOTHEQUE). THE POINT IS THAT SINCE COW IS "DEMOCRATIC", ITS STATUS CAN- NOT BE REDUCED TO JUST "OVERVIEW". LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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7. OTHER ASPECTS OF HIS OBSERVATIONS SEEM LESS DIFFICULT. WHILE HE CHARACTERIZES WESTERN AND EASTERN VIEWS OF COW PURPOSES AS "BETTER UNDERSTANDING" AND "REPARATION FOR THE 1980 SPECIAL SESSION", BE CHARACTERIZES LDC VIEW AS SEEKING TO ATTAIN NIEO BY FURTHERING ACTION ON DECISIONS TAKEN AND SEEKING TO RESOLVE PROBLEMS. LATER HE SPEAKS OF "OPERNING THE WAY TO ACTION", AND OF "CONCEPTUAL BREAK- THOUGHTS SHOWING THE WAY TO PRACTICAL SOLUTIONS". THESE EXPRESSIONS SEEM MORE CONSISTENT WITH U.S. APPROACH.

8. AS TO THE ROLE OF THIS WEEKS MEETING, JAZAIRY HOPES THEY WILL "LAY THE FOUNDATIONS FOR A SOLUTION TO THE UNRESOLVED PROBLEMS". WHILE HE CLEARLY SUGGESTS PROBLEMS ARE PROCEDURAL, BE ALSO NOTES THAT PROCEDURAL ARRANGEMENTS ALONE CANNOT REPLACE A WILL TO PROGRESS, AND THAT THE FIRST REPORT TO THE G.A. WILL HAVE TO DEAL WITH "GRAVE PROBLEMS AFFECTING HUMANITY AND NOT PROCEDURAL SUBTLETIES". AS TO SUBJECTS OF FUTURE DISCUSSIONS, HE NOTES THEY MUST BE CHOSEN ON BASIS OF IMPORTANCE, NOT EASE OF AGREEMENT. (EARLIER, HE PROVIDED A GOOD EXAMPLE IN NOTING NEED FOR GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATION AT UNIDO CONSULTATIONS).

9. COMMENT: WE CANNOT JUDGE DEGREE OF JAZAIRY'S HANG-UP ON DECISION-MAKING STATUS OF COW. NOR, AS NOTED REFTTEL, DO WE KNOW INSPIRATION OF HIS REMARKS (PERSONAL, ALGIERS, G-77?) OUR INTEREST WOULD APPEAR TO BE TO STRESS THE "CONCEPTUAL BREAKTHROUGH" SIDE, AND DEGREE TO WHICH OUR APPROACH CAN PER- MIT A SUBSTANTIVE REPORT TO G.A.

10. CORRECTIONS: ON PARA 4, SENTENCE 4 SHOULD READ: "THIS WAS ACCOMPANIED BY OBSERVATIONS THAT LDC DEMAND HAD PLAYED COUNTERCYCLICAL ROLE, BUT AT EXPENSE OF DEBT, AND LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THAT LDC'S COULD NOT CONTINUE AS "LOCOMOTIVES" ONLY WITH OWN RESOURCES. VANDEN HEUVEL

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